

NEW MEXICO CROP PROGRESS



United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
NEW MEXICO FIELD OFFICE
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Cooperating with the New Mexico Department of Agriculture



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION
WEEK ENDING AUGUST 20, 2017

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: A week of drier weather allowed producers time to get back into their fields to continue harvesting chile and hay, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistical Service, USDA. During the week, 13 percent of this year’s chile crop was picked, leaving progress 7 percentage points ahead of last year and 16 percentage points ahead of normal. The crop was reported as 47 percent good to excellent, compared with 48 percent last week and 72 percent last year. It was noted that producers were still unable to harvest fields in portions of Dona Ana County due to excessive moisture from heavy rainfall and damage from large hail from storms a little more than a week ago. In contrast from recent weeks, measurable moisture was recorded at 37 reporting weather stations during the week, with just 2 stations totaling an inch or more of rainfall. Pasamonte, at 1.75 inches, noted the largest accumulation during the week. Statewide, topsoil moisture levels were reported as 80 percent adequate to surplus, compared with 82 percent last week, 22 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 33 percent. Comments from multiple counties indicated that the recent rains provided good moisture that boosted pasture grass growth which in turn, should supply quality fall feedstuffs for livestock. Statewide, pasture and range conditions were reported as 39 percent good to excellent, compared with 37 percent last week, 28 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 24 percent. Average temperatures ranged from 4 degrees below to 5 degree above normal. Daytime highs varied from 75 degrees at Angel Fire to 101 degrees at Acme. Overnight lows ranged from 33 degrees at Angel Fire to 66 degrees at Alamogordo and Carlsbad. Pecan nut set was reported as 4 percent heavy, 60 percent moderate, and 36 percent light, compared with 8 percent heavy, 67 percent moderate, and 25 percent light last week. Hail damage in all crops was reported as 3 percent severe, 7 percent moderate, and 7 percent light, compared with 1 percent severe, 1 percent moderate, and 7 percent light last week. Wind damage in all crops was reported as 5 percent severe, 5 percent moderate, and 13 percent light, compared with 4 percent severe, 6 percent moderate, and 12 percent light last week. Stock water supplies were reported as 4 percent very short, 17 percent short, 73 percent adequate, and 6 percent surplus, compared with 4 percent very short, 17 percent short, 74 percent adequate, and 5 percent surplus last week.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS				
Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa hay				
3 rd cutting harvested	96	92	94	94
4 th cutting harvested.....	67	58	54	69
5 th cutting harvested.....	34	21	26	26
Chile				
Green harvested.....	43	30	36	27
Corn				
Silking	91	78	89	90
Dough.....	29	21	47	40
Dented	5	1	3	11
Corn harvested for silage.....	15	9	32	15
Cotton				
Squaring	92	87	98	97
Setting bolls.....	62	47	74	78
Peanuts				
Pegging.....	92	77	79	74
Sorghum				
Headed	49	34	53	40
Coloring	24	5	22	7
NA – not available				
(--) – zero				

DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION				
Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
Days suitable for fieldwork	6.1	3.9	6.7	6.7
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	3	3	16	28
Short	17	15	62	39
Adequate	59	67	21	32
Surplus	21	15	1	1
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	2	5	17	NA
Short	26	23	39	NA
Adequate	64	70	43	NA
Surplus	8	2	1	NA
NA – not available				
(--) – zero				

CROP, LIVESTOCK, AND PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION				
	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Alfalfa hay				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	2
Poor.....	10	13	3	7
Fair.....	12	13	43	28
Good	69	68	47	53
Excellent	9	6	7	10
Chile				
Very poor.....	1	1	--	NA
Poor.....	6	4	7	NA
Fair.....	46	47	21	NA
Good	34	37	48	NA
Excellent	13	11	24	NA
Corn				
Very poor.....	3	5	2	2
Poor.....	4	7	4	4
Fair.....	19	17	31	27
Good	51	50	48	38
Excellent	23	21	15	29
Cotton				
Very poor.....	3	7	3	2
Poor.....	5	6	25	15
Fair.....	39	30	31	34
Good	46	48	33	33
Excellent	7	9	8	16
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	2	4	3	21
Poor.....	25	25	23	24
Fair.....	34	34	46	31
Good	31	28	25	20
Excellent	8	9	3	4
Peanuts				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	3
Poor.....	6	8	5	14
Fair.....	63	70	72	70
Good	31	22	23	12
Excellent	--	--	--	1
Pecan				
Very poor.....	4	2	--	--
Poor.....	4	2	--	--
Fair.....	5	6	6	24
Good	77	79	47	57
Excellent	10	11	47	19
Sorghum				
Very poor.....	1	9	--	9
Poor.....	1	7	3	8
Fair.....	43	40	77	44
Good	48	41	19	37
Excellent	7	3	1	2
Cattle and calves				
Very poor.....	--	1	2	NA
Poor.....	1	2	4	NA
Fair.....	27	31	37	NA
Good	59	58	52	NA
Excellent	13	8	5	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor.....	1	6	12	NA
Poor.....	3	6	13	NA
Fair.....	26	26	20	NA
Good	62	56	50	NA
Excellent	8	6	5	NA

NA – not available
 (--) – zero

New Mexico’s weather data can be accessed at the following:
http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/New_Mexico/Publications/Crop_Progress_&_Condition/2017/NM_Weather_08202017.pdf